

TO: Mayor Keith Holliday and Members of the City Council

FROM: Linda Wilson, Chair – Commission on the Status of Women

DATE February 3, 2004

SUBJECT: **ANNUAL REPORT PROGRAM YEAR AUGUST 15, 2002 - AUGUST 15, 2003**

The *Commission on the Status of Women* invites you and Council members to review the attached report. We also invite you to join us for a Commission meeting. Our meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month in City Council Chambers.

Thank you and Council members for your continued support.

TABLE of CONTENTS

1) MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR.....	3
2) 2002 - 2003 ROSTER OF COMMISSIONERS	4
3) CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS/DISTRICT	5
4) COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS.....	6
5) REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES	7
a) Women's Equality Day	7
b) Women's History Education	9
c) Women of Achievement	9
d) Women Improving Race Relations	10
e) Membership	12
f) Visibility	12
6) AD-HOC COMMITTEES	12
a) Women and Finance	12
b) Services for Seniors	13
7) ADMINISTRATION.....	13
8) OTHER ACTIVITIES	14

1) MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Thanks to all members for an exceptional year! The year 2003 has witnessed the continuing charge of studying the changing and developing roles of women in American society. This past year the Commission addressed numerous issues including domestic violence, gender equity, family, employment, education and healthcare. The following noteworthy accomplishments are summarized:

Monthly discussion groups were held in luncheon settings geared toward offering women of diverse backgrounds and culture the opportunity to meet informally and discuss race relations and other diversity issues.

A committee designed to target “retirement health” for women was organized to encourage and educate women of the importance of long-term financial planning.

The Services for Seniors Committee released “A Quick Map To Seniors Bookmark” that outlined agencies and the services they provide in the Guilford County Community for seniors.

The newsletter “Speak Out” devised by the Visibility Committee and the Women’s History of Education Committee have continued to represent and broadcast our efforts to work toward the betterment of the status of women in our City.

As we move into year 2004, with its increasingly dynamic and sometimes uncertain circumstances, I hope you will find the information and activities of the Commission to be informative, interesting and helpful. If you have suggestions for future topics or activities please contact the office.

Linda R. Wilson

2) 2002 - 2003 ROSTER OF COMMISSIONERS

<u>COMMISSIONER</u>	<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>APPOINTED</u>	<u>EXPIRATION</u>
Linda R. Wilson	3	02/19/02	08/15/04
Tracie S. Leonard	4	11/07/01	08/15/03
Karlan H. Barker	4	02/19/02	08/15/04
Maria E. Byars	4	09/04/01	08/15/03
Joyce V. Fairley	4	02/01/00	08/15/02
Harold C. Fields	2	02/16/99	08/15/02
Marietta C. Gaines	1	05/07/02	08/15/04
Karen L. Holstein	3	01/21/03	08/15/04
Elizabeth M. Howe	3	02/18/03	08/15/04
Sandra J. Hunt	1	08/15/02	08/15/05
Gloria M. Rankin	1	08/15/98	08/15/04
Jerono P. Rotich	4	12/18/01	08/15/04
Faye P. Stanley	1	08/15/00	08/15/06
Irene M. Stapleton	5	04/16/02	08/15/04
Mildred L. Summers	5	10/15/02	08/15/05
Doris V. Vincent	2	04/16/02	08/15/04

Staff

Agnes W. H. Roseboro, Administrator

3) CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS/DISTRICT

Council Member Belvin J. Jessup	District 1
Council Member Claudette Burroughs-White	District 2
Council Member Robbie Perkins	District 3
Council Member Florence Gatten	District 4
Council Member Sandy Carmany	District 5
Council Member Keith A. Holliday	At-Large & Mayor
Council Member Yvonne J. Johnson	At-Large & Mayor Pro Tem
Council Member Donald R. Vaughn	At Large
Council Member Tom Phillips	At Large

4) COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Executive Committee

Linda Wilson, Chair
Tracie Leonard, Vice-Chair
Maria Byars
Joyce Fairley
Harold Fields
Sandra Hunt
Gloria Rankin
Faye Stanley
Irene Stapleton
Doris Vincent

Women's History Education

Maria Byars, Chair
Gloria Rankin
Marietta Gaines
Faye Stanley

Women Improving Race Relations

Doris Vincent, Co-Chair
Sandra Hunt, Co-Chair
Pearl Durham
Cathie Holcombe
Yolanda Leacraft
Catherine Kinsey
Gertrude Morrow
Marilyn Pinckney

Membership Committee

Harold Fields, Chair
Maria Byars
Linda Wilson

M/WBE

(Minority & Women Business Enterprise)
Tracie Leonard, CSW
Representative

Women of Achievement

Linda Wilson, Chair
Maria Byars
Joyce Fairley
Beth Howe
Jeanne Hudgens

Women's Equality Day

Irene Stapleton, Co-Chair
Doris Vincent, Co-Chair
Joyce Fairley
Jerono Rotich

Visibility Committee

Tracie Leonard, Co-Chair
Irene Stapleton, Co-Chair
Cynthia P. Downs

Service for Seniors (Ad Hoc)

Faye Stanley, Co-Chair
Marietta Gaines, Co-Chair
Joyce Fairley

Women and Finance (Ad Hoc)

Maria Byars, Chair
Linda Wilson
Harold Fields
Jeanne Hudgens
Sandra Hunt
Tracie Leonard
Jerono Rotich
Linda Wilson

Teen Prostitution Task Force

(A Community Initiative)
Jerono Rotich, CSW
Representative

5) REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES

a) Women's Equality Day

In celebration of the 82nd Anniversary of Women getting the right to vote and Women's quest and struggles for equality, the Greensboro *Commission on the Status of Women* sponsored Women's Equality Day on Saturday, August 24, 2002 at the West Market United Methodist Church.

The theme of the program was **"Mobilizing Women: A Common Agenda Within Our Multicultural Community"**. This theme was chosen due to the wide diversity of the community and the current issues being dealt with by women in the community.

Maria Sanchez-Boudy, President and owner of Latin Connections, was the featured speaker. Her topic was **"It's a Small World - Right Here in Guilford County"**. The thrust of her comments was giving insight into how women can make a difference in their own futures by accepting and embracing the newest trends in the community.

The program included the following workshops:

Women & Health -

Co-Presenters:

Deborah Kelly - Healthy Carolinians, Lay Health Advisor, Immigrant Health Services; Guilford Health Partnership, Immigrant Health ACCESS Project

Laura Mroska - Coordinator, Healthy Carolinians, Guilford Health Partnership

Discussion:

Ms. Kelly and Mroska discussed the health of the community focusing on the status and outlook of women's health. The participants explored existing their assets and identified ways to positively influence their own health and the health of the community.

Women & Finance -

Presenter:

Sherri Brown - Financial Advisor, American Express Financial Advisors, Inc.

Discussion:

Ms. Brown discussed the best investment a woman can make is in herself. Also discussed were ways women could increase their knowledge of concerns of women investors.

Women & Advocacy Leadership -

Co-Presenters:

Maureen F. Hartigan - President/Owner Hartigan & Associates

Cynthia Downs-Pulliam - Consultant, Downs & Associates

Discussion:

This workshop focused on how to become an advocate for whatever cause the participants felt passionate. The workshop was divided into two topics: learning about advocacy in its various forms and learning techniques that would help participants become effective advocates.

Corporate sponsors of the event were:

- Dudley Beauty School System, Inc.
- Lorillard Tobacco Company
- Procter & Gamble Manufacturing Company
- Replacements Ltd.

Agency and Organizational supporters of the event were:

- AARP
- American Association of University Women (Greensboro Branch)
- Child Care Information Program/UCDS
- Democratic Women of Guilford County
- Eastridge Technologies
- Elaine Ernest, CSW Commissioner
- Hartigan & Associates
- NANBPW - Greensboro Club
- Senior Resources
- Triad NOW, National Organization for Women
- Women's Resource Center
- YWCA of Greensboro

The Division's program evaluation tool was used to obtain participant's comments. The comments received stated that participants enjoyed the "fellowship and networking with other women", they liked the facility and meal. Participants would like to have younger women and women of other cultures attend the event.

This event was financially self-sustaining.

b) Women's History Education

To celebrate Women's History Month for March 2001, the Women's History Education Committee purchased and distributed the Annual National Women's History Projects Commemorative Poster to public high schools, middle schools, and public libraries. The poster was also displayed at the Annual Women of Achievement Luncheon.

c) Women of Achievement

The 16th Annual Women of Achievement Awards Luncheon was held on Wednesday, March 19, 2003 at the Koury Convention Center. The theme was **"30 years: Enhancing the Lives of Women"**. Approximately 175 people attended the event.

Dr. Johnnetta B. Cole, Ph.D., President of Bennett College, delivered the keynote address.

Women of Achievement Awards were presented for outstanding contributions are in the categories listed below. The recipients were selected from a pool of 17 nominees. The Commission on the Status of Women staff facilitated the selection process. The Steering Committee selected the winners through an anonymous scoring process.

Community Service	Jane C. Cauthen
Education	Fannie Bratcher
Health	Helen B. Hill
Religion	Ruth Rideout
The Arts	Patricia J. Trice, Ph.D.
Business & Industry	Sandra Mayfield
Woman Owned Business	Josephine Bass

The Emily Smith Award, the Commission's highest award, was given to Sandra Mayfield, a recipient of one of the above awards. The Emily Smith

award honors Ms. Smith, who initiated the establishment of the Commission on the Status of Women, was a community activist and a homemaker.

This year, in addition to the traditional awards, the Commission on the Status of Women initiated The Burroughs-White/Kirk Award to recognize the contributions of young women in Greensboro. The award honors the many years of service that Councilwoman Claudette Burroughs-White and Dr. Sarah Kirk have given to youth, and college students.

The recipient must be a high school or college student between the ages of 14 and 22 years old with a minimum GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale. The award represents outstanding contributions in the area of community service that has had a significant impact on Greensboro. The recipient must exemplify leadership qualities and a passion to be a positive influence on her peers and community.

The inaugural recipient was Lillian "Alex" Hanes. Alex is a high school student with a 4.78 GPA. She was selected as one of the 17 academic nominees for the Governor's School representing Guilford County Schools. In addition, Alex has attended High Point's Rotary Club Summer Leadership Program. Her enthusiasm and participation in this program resulted in her presenting her experience to a local Rotary Club meeting.

Alex has also contributed many hours of volunteer service to the Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center, as a Junior Counselor at Piney Lake Summer Camp with UNC-G, volunteering at an animal hospital, and mission work with her youth group.

The Division's program evaluation tool was used to obtain participant's comments. The comments received stated that the "speaker was excellent". Nearly 50% rated the quality of the program as 'excellent'; and 100% of the received ratings stated the facility was adequate.

This event was financially self-sustaining.

d) Women Improving Race Relations

Monthly programs continued to be planned and implemented by the Steering Committee and Commission Staff. Women from the Greensboro area were invited to participate in discussion groups on various topics for improving race relations.

In addition to its on-going programs, WIRR participated in the Martin Luther King, Jr. parade. WIRR had two vehicles in the parade. Various WIRR members rode in the vehicles, handed out WIRR brochures and bookmarks, and threw wrapped candy to the parade watchers.

WIRR Monthly Meetings – Discussion groups are held monthly in a luncheon setting to address various issues in an attempt to initiate change regarding race relations in the Greensboro and Guilford County community. Meetings are held every other 4th Thursday from 12:00 Noon – 1:30 p.m. at Shiloh Baptist Church. Issues for the program Year 2002 - 2003 were:

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| September 26, 2002 | “Education In Guilford County”
A panel discussion with Members of the
Guilford County School Board of Education |
| November 21, 2002 | “Clothesline Stories”
A Readers’ Group Presentation re-enacting
life stories about race relations written by
women in Guilford County |
| January 23, 2003 | “Women As Agents of Change in Our
Community” |
| March 27, 2003 | “Muslim Women”
Presentation from a panel of Muslim Women |
| May 22, 2003 | “What Is the Corporate Impact on Race?” |

WIRR Reader’s Group – The Readers Group continues to meet in the homes of members who participate in reading and discussing books written about race, cultural and women’s issues. Meetings are held on the 4th Sunday of each month. The Program year 2002 - 2003 readings were:

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| September 22, 2002 | Writing by Women & Men of all Colors and Culture :
Junot Diaz |
| October 27, 2002 | <i>A Lesson Before Dying</i>
Ernest J. Gaines |
| November 24, 2002 | <i>Princess: A True Story of Life Behind the Veil in
Saudi Arabia</i>
Jean Sasson |
| December 2002 | No meeting |
| January 26, 2003 | <i>Motiba’s Tattoos</i>
Mira Kamdar |
| February 23, 2003 | <i>Miracle at St. Anna</i>
James McBride |

March 23, 2003	<i>The Scalpel and the Silver Bear</i> Lori Alvord
April 27, 2003	<i>Women of the Silk</i> Tsukiyama
May 25, 2003	<i>That Evening Sun</i> William Faulkner And <i>Beasts of the Southern Wild</i> Doris Betts

Approximately 25 - 35 women make up the Readers Group. Several members participated in the city-wide "One City - One Book" project.

e) Membership

The New Member Selection Committee continued to seek candidates to fill vacant positions who bring diversity and knowledge to the various issue areas that the Commission addresses. The Committee's dedication resulted in the Commission attaining full membership - 15 members.

f) Visibility

Members of this Committee designed and put online a Web page for the Commission. This has created a wonderful and beneficial single source of information for the community and potential new Commissioners. The site provides generic information regarding the Commission as well as upcoming events and reports on completed events.

In addition, the committee continued with producing its biannual newsletter. The Commissioners and community have found these newsletters quite informative.

6) AD-HOC COMMITTEES

a) Women and Finance

This committee was initiated late in the previous program year. The Mission is to encourage women to take responsibility for their "retirement health" in an attempt to reduce the number of women that become the elderly poor. Workshops focus on educating and strengthening women's knowledge base about the importance of long-term financial planning.

Workshops held in program year 2002 - 2003 were:

Hugh Williams
First Vice President, Morgan Keegan
Watchful Network's Black Expo, Greensboro Coliseum
February 7, 2003

Sherri Brown
Financial Advisor, American Express Financial Advisors, Inc
Grimsley High School, for female students
March 5, 2003

Ed Stephens
Investment Consultant of Morgan Keegan
North Carolina A & T State University
April 5, 2003

b) Services for Seniors

After much investigation and collaboration with agencies and organizations that provide services to senior citizens, in the spring of 2003 the committee released its “**A Quick Map to Seniors Services**” bookmark. The bookmark has printed, on both sides, agencies within the greater Greensboro area that provide various services beneficial to seniors. The bookmark was created for seniors and their caregivers. Bookmarks were distributed to the faith community through:

- The 22 Congregational Nurse Programs (nursing program that services in churches),
- Women's Resource Center,
- The Joy A. Shabazz Center for Independent Living,
- The Women of Achievement Luncheon,
- Senior Resources of Guilford County,
- United Way's 211 program,
- Faith Matters.

Additional bookmarks were distributed upon request. Because of its popularity, a second printing of 2,000 has been printed to date. This initiative will be evaluated annually to determine its effectiveness and/or continued need.

7) ADMINISTRATION

The Commission on the Status of Women is pleased to note the following accomplishments during the program year 2002 - 2003:

- Co-sponsored, with the African American Atelier, City Library and Historical Museum, an Art Exhibit for San Franciscan artist, Synthia Saint James;
- Co-sponsored with the African American Atelier and City Library, a visit by artist/publisher Betty LaDuke which included a Book Discussion/Signing and Opening Exhibition and Artist Reception and Talk;
- Assisted Resources For Artful Living (REAL) in securing a \$10,000 grant from the Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro;
- Provided leadership training for several civic organizations;
- Established and awarded the first Emily Smith Woman of Achievement Award;
- Human Relations Youth Leadership Program - Speaker;
- Greensboro Beautiful, 35th Anniversary Committee - Member;
- Continued to respond to referrals on sexual harassment in the workplace.

8) OTHER ACTIVITIES

Dr. Millicent E. Brown, Asst. Professor, NC A&T State University, - facilitated annual planning retreat

The Commission had extensive involvement with other organizations through its Commissioners as listed below:

- NACW Convention - Commissioners: Gloria Rankin and Jerono Rotich.
- City Library's One City One Book program.
- Peace & Justice Network.
- NAACP – MLK, Jr. Parade.
- Crescent Rotary's Kettle Drive.
- Crescent Rotary – Secured \$500 – Clothesline Project.
- Community Foundation - \$2,500 – grant – Clothesline Project.

- Sponsored the “Reading Leadership Academy” Conducted by the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW) Washington, DC office.
- WIRR members conducted five (5) “Clothesline Stories” presentations in local churches.
- The Congregational Nursing Program.
- Cultural Arts Center.

The Commission had liaison relationships through the administrator to the following organizations:

- The Department of Social Services Success Team (monthly).
- The United Way Goal Area Council for Services to Adults (monthly).
- National Association of Commission for Women (NACW) Board of Directors (elected).
- National Association of Human Rights Workers (NAHRWA) member.
- The City Library’s One City One Book city-wide steering committee.
- Bennett College’s “The President Presents”.
- Bennett College – “Women in Government” class.
- UNC-G - Student Intern.
- Yeshiva University, School of Social Work, New York – Student Intern.
- 35th Anniversary Committee of Greensboro Beautiful.
- National Kidney Foundation of North Carolina Board of Directors (quarterly).
- REAL, Inc. Advisory Board Member.
- Senior Resources.
- Adult Center for Enrichment.
- Women’s Resource Center.
- Moses Cone Health System.
- Faith Matters, Inc.
- Business and Professional Women’s Clubs – Annual Founders Day Breakfast – Speaker.
- St. James Baptist Church – Morning Service Speaker – Youth’s Black History Celebration.